

AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 10/000,063

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments, Claims 3-17 and 19 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants have canceled Claim 18 and rewritten Claim 19 as an independent claim.

Amended Claim 19 recites the plural term "protective layers," as suggested by the Examiner at Section No. 1, page 2, of the Action. Claims 3-5 have been amended to make them consistent with amended Claim 19. No new matter has been added.

In view of having amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §112 rejection of Claims 4-19.

Furthermore, Claim 19 has not been rejected over the prior art. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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